Weekly Status & Information Report: Week of May 16, 2005

- 1. A Visit from Lt. Governor Steele: Lt. Governor Michael Steele toured Takoma Park on Thursday morning, along with many high level State officials, and City Councilmembers. During his visit, he announced over \$7 million in State funding towards the construction of a bus transit center at the intersection of University Blvd and New Hampshire Ave. (The project would also require contributions from Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.) The tour included a stop at Carroll and Westmoreland Avenue to discuss a possible cut in State funding for a portion of the street improvements now underway in Old Town, public safety efforts, and business improvement efforts. At this stop, the Lt. Governor was met by many seniors from Victory Tower carrying signs urging the street improvements to remain on track. At the Takoma/Langley Crossroads area, pedestrian safety and transit improvements were the major point of discussion. The Lt. Governor also visited the site of the proposed Mother Teresa Youth Center in Langley Park and toured the Spanish Catholic Center in Takoma Park. State money was also pledged to assist in their efforts to serve the community. (Community & Government Liaison)
- 2. Reception for District 20 Representatives: The City Council will honor the community's representatives in the State Legislature on Monday, May 23rd at 7 pm. Senator Ida Ruben and Delegates Peter Franchot, Sheila Hixson, and Gareth Murray will be honored for their efforts in securing funding for the Takoma Park Community Center. A reception is scheduled for 7 pm, with a presentation made to them at the beginning of the City Council meeting at 7:30 pm. The public is invited to both the reception and presentation. (Community & Government Liaison)
- 3. <u>Circle Woods Clean-Up (Ward 3):</u> Circle Woods will have the bi-annual volunteer clean-up this Saturday, May 21 starting at 9:00. The City Arborist will be there to assist. (City Arborist)
- 4. <u>Street Restoration Update (Wards 1 & 6):</u> The City contractor completed concrete work on Baltimore Avenue (from Philadelphia to New York) Ward 1, and Buffalo Avenue (from New York to Albany) Ward 1. Installation of traffic calming measures on Maple Avenue have been placed on hold awaiting guidance from residents. Next week the contractor plans to begin concrete work on Dundalk Road, Ward 1, and Wildwood Avenue (from Kingwood to Jackson) Ward 6. Milling and paving on these 4 streets is tentatively schedule for the first week of June. (Public Works)
- 5. Takoma Park Business Directory and Survival Guide (City-wide): The 2005 edition of the Survival Guide, developed in partnership with the Takoma Park Cooperative Nursery School, was delivered today. Copies will be distributed to residences throughout the community and are available at the Municipal Building and the Takoma Park Library. (Housing and Community Development Department)
- 6. <u>Main Street Recognition (Ward 1):</u> The National Main Street Conference was held in Baltimore last week. Recognized for their contributions to the Takoma Park Main Street program were Bobbi Kittner (Kittner Design), David Eisner (House of Musical Traditions), and Sara Anne Daines (City of Takoma Park). (Housing and Community Development Department)

- 7. Officers in Training: Two officers attended a four-day training program with the Montgomery County Police entitled "Crisis Intervention Team Training" which included session on dealing with mentally ill subjects. Two officers attended a three-day drug investigation training with the County Police. Capt. Coursey and Sgt. Gilbert of the COP team attended a two-day training on "Strategies for Local Event Planning and Community Security." A D.A.R.E. graduation was held Friday morning at John Nevins Andrews elementary school, attended by the Chief and officers who taught the program this spring. Capt. Coursey attended the quarterly Emergency Management Group meeting. (Police)
- 8. <u>Rising in Ranks:</u> A written exam and oral boards were conducted this week to create an eligibility list for sergeants and lieutenants. The written exam portion for the corporal process will be held Sunday, May 22. (*Police*)
- 9. Noise Waivers (Wards 1 & 3): The following are temporary Noise Waivers granted by the City Manager for: 1) A Fund Raising Celebration on Sunday, May 22, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., 7210 Holly Avenue; 2) a graduation party on Friday, June 3, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., 6900 block of Westmoreland Avenue. (Acting City Clerk)
- 10. <u>Afternoon Addition:</u> The Afternoon Addition will have several guest speakers from now until the end of the school year. They include Mad Science mini workshops and performance, Matt Corley and marbles, Lisa's World of Animal and Plant Survival and much more. (*Recreation*)
- 11. <u>Rock the Block (Ward 6):</u> On Saturday, May 21, the Rock the Block Ward Party is coming to Ward 6! Join your neighbors at Hillwood Manor Neighborhood Park for the Recreation Department's celebration of community in Takoma Park. Attractions include moon bounce, portable skate park, picnic, demonstrations, arts and crafts and more. 12-4 p.m. (*Recreation*)
- 12. Officer Conrad & Seatbelts: On Thursday, May 19, Officer Cindy Conrad came and spoke to the Afternoon Addition program about seatbelt safety. The highlight of the presentation was when the kids got to sit in a police car and play with the horn, lights and siren. She handed them some important safety information to share with their parents and every child signed a seatbelt pledge, promising they will wear their seatbelt at all times. (Recreation)
- 13. <u>Tennis Clinic</u>: The Tennis Clinic will end next Friday, May 27. 42 kids participated this spring. Their backhands are now impeccable! (*Recreation*)